CHARTER AND CONSTITUTION

OF THE

GYNÆCOLOGICAL HOSPITAL

AND

INFIRMARY FOR DISEASES OF CHILDREN.

PHILADELPHIA:
COLLINS, PRINTER, 705 JAYNE STREET.
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CHARTER AND CONSTITUTION.

WHEREAS, There is, at the present time, an inadequate provision for the gratuitous treatment of diseases of women and children among the poor, especially in that populous district of the city of Philadelphia lying north of Fairmount Avenue; and it being deemed expedient to found a charity that shall be especially adapted to meet the medical wants of this large class of the community, the following named persons, citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, namely: John Pearce, James Moore, John J. Reese, William S. Reyburn, D. Hayes Agnew, Thomas Dolan, John Robbins, J. A. McFerran, Theo. H. Seyfert, M. Simpson, L. P. Hornberger, Joseph Singerly, Dilwyn Parrish, and S. Flanagan, have, together with other citizens, associated themselves for the purpose of instituting a Hospital in the city of Philadelphia; and being desirous to be incorporated agreeably to the provisions of the act of General Assembly in such cases made and provided, they do, therefore, declare the following to be the objects, articles, and conditions of their said association, agreeably to which they desire to be incorporated:—

ARTICLE I.

The name of this corporation shall be "THE GYNÆCOLOGICAL HOSPITAL AND INFIRMARY FOR DISEASES OF CHILDREN," situated in the city of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania.

ARTICLE II.

The object of this corporation is to furnish medical and surgical treatment gratuitously to indigent women suffering

from the diseases peculiarly incident to their sex, and also to young children of poor parents.

ARTICLE III.

Any person, being a citizen of this Commonwealth, who shall contribute to the Institution the sum of five dollars yearly, or the sum of fifty dollars at one time, shall be a member of this corporation.

ARTICLE IV.

This corporation shall have power to take, hold, and convey real and personal property, and also to receive devises and legacies, donations and subscriptions, and apply the same to the general purposes of the Institution: *Provided*, the clear yearly value or income of the real estate so held shall not exceed the sum of twenty thousand dollars.

ARTICLE V.

The government of the Institution shall be vested in a Board of Managers, consisting of twelve ladies, which Board shall be elected by the corporators as soon as reasonably may be after the incorporation of the Institution; an Advisory Council, to consist of ten gentlemen, shall be chosen by the said corporators at the same time. The terms of office of the said Board of Managers and Advisory Council shall be during good behavior. It shall be the duty of the Board of Managers at their first meeting, and annually thereafter, to appoint a President, Secretary, and Treasurer (the latter of whom shall be one of the Advisory Council) to hold office for the period of one year, and until their successors are duly chosen. Any vacancy or vacancies occurring in said Board of Managers, or offices of President, Secretary, or Treasurer, by death, resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled by said Board of Managers; and the said Advisory Council shall fill any such vacancy or vacancies occurring in its own body. The Board of Managers shall hold stated meetings monthly, and special

meetings whenever necessary, at such time and place as they may appoint, of which due notice shall be given; and a majority of members thereof present shall constitute a quorum. The said Board shall have power to make by-laws, rules, and regulations for their own government, and for the government and management of the Institution: *Provided*, the same are consistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States, and of this Commonwealth, and with the provisions of the charter.

ARTICLE VI.

At the first meeting of the corporators of this Institution there shall be chosen three visiting physicians, who shall render their services gratuitously, and who shall form a Medical Board, upon whom the entire medical care of the patients shall devolve. The members of the said Medical Board shall continue in office during good behavior; and the said Board shall have power to fill all vacancies in its own body.

ARTICLE VII.

The Medical Board shall have power to make such laws, rules, and regulations as they may deem advisable with reference to the admission and discharge of patients; but none shall be excluded from the benefits of this Institution by reason of creed, country, or color.

ARTICLE VIII.

The regular annual meetings of the corporation shall be held on the first Monday of October in each year, at such time and place as the Board of Managers shall appoint; at which meeting they shall present to the corporation a full report of all their transactions for the previous year.

ARTICLE IX.

Amendments to this Constitution, not inconsistent with the objects of the Institution, nor with the Constitution and

laws of the United States, or the Constitution and Laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, may be made, in conformity with law and with the approval of the Court, at a regular annual meeting, by a vote of two-thirds present: *Provided*, that in no case shall the funds of the Institution be diverted from the purpose for which they were contributed.

STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, }
County of Philadelphia. } *ss.*

Before me, the Recorder of Deeds in and for the county aforesaid, personally appeared John J. Reese, Joseph A. McFerran, and Theodore H. Seyfert, three of the above named incorporators, who in due form of law acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be their act and deed for the purposes therein specified.

Witness my hand and seal of office the ninth day of July, A. D. 1874.

[SEAL.] DAVID H. LANE,
Deputy Recorder of Deeds.

BE IT REMEMBERED, that at a Court of Common Pleas for the City and County of Philadelphia, held at Philadelphia the thirteenth day of May, A. D. 1874, the foregoing instrument of writing was presented to said court on behalf of the persons therein named in order that they might be incorporated according to law, and the objects, articles, and conditions therein set forth. Whereupon, on motion of Walter S. Stark, Esquire, the Court order the same instrument to be filed, and that notice of said application be published according to law. And now, to wit, this tenth day of July, A. D. 1874, due proof of said publication having been exhibited to one of the law judges of said county, who having thereupon perused and examined the said instrument, and finding the same to be in proper form and within the purposes named in the first class specified in the Act of Assembly of April 29th, 1874, and

that the objects, articles and conditions therein contained appear to be lawful, and not injurious to the community, does order and decree that the said charter is approved. And it is further ordered that the said charter and this order shall be recorded in the office for recording deeds in and for the said county; and on said charter and said order being so recorded, the subscribers thereto and their associates shall be a corporation for the purposes and upon the terms therein stated.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this tenth day of July, A. D. 1874.

[SEAL.]

WM. S. PEIRCE,
Judge Court Common Pleas of the City and County of Philadelphia.

THE

GYNÆCOLOGICAL HOSPITAL AND INFIRMARY FOR DISEASES OF CHILDREN.

The above-named charity appeals in the strongest terms to the sympathies and support of our fellow citizens on behalf of an exceedingly numerous and necessitous portion of the community—namely, sick women and children in destitute circumstances.

The object of this Institution is twofold: first (as the term *gynæcological* implies), it contemplates the medical and surgical relief of those diseases which are peculiar to the female system; and, secondly, it provides for the treatment of the numerous diseases incident to childhood.

When we take into consideration the large number of women who, by their physical constitution and peculiar exposure, are liable to diseases which, if neglected, lead to permanent disability and often to premature death, and the very inadequate means provided for their gratuitous relief, the urgent call for just such a public charity will be readily acknowledged. The claims of the thousands of sick and indigent children are certainly not less pressing. It will doubtless be a matter of surprise to many to be informed that there does not exist in our large city a single public institution devoted *exclusively* to the treatment of diseases of women and children.

In view of the large number of these particular claimants for medical and surgical assistance, no further argument need

be urged to elicit the warm sympathy and generous support of our fellow-citizens in aid of this most praiseworthy object.

In order to carry out the intended design, and hasten the progress of the new enterprise, the officers of this institution make an earnest appeal to their fellow-citizens for pecuniary aid, relying on their proverbial liberality in sustaining every laudable effort for the relief of the sick and the destitute.

For the present, the Board of Managers will be compelled to *rent* a house in a suitable locality; but their efforts are directed to the securing of a proper building *by purchase*, which they hope to do at an early day, where they may be enabled to enlarge and develop the charity as its growing demands may require. To this end they earnestly and respectfully invite large and generous contributions, in order that the hospital may start upon a permanent and substantial basis, and may not be impeded by financial fluctuations. Once thus established, the usual annual contributions and subscriptions will be sufficient to carry it on successfully.

It is intended that the hospital shall he furnished with all the appliances which modern science and skill have invented for the treatment of diseases of women. It is further designed, as soon as the funds of the corporation will justify it, to receive as resident patients such cases as demand a more constant and regular course of treatment. In fact it is believed that the amount of positive practical relief that can be thus afforded will be limited only by the pecuniary means placed at the disposal of the managers by the friends of the hospital. It may be proper to state, in this connection, that the physicians will render their services gratuitously. They will be in attendance every day at certain hours (Sundays excepted), at which time, also, one or more of the lady managers will be present.

The annual payment of five dollars constitutes a membership of this Institution.

A payment of fifty dollars constitutes a life membership.

Contributions of any amount will be gratefully received and acknowledged by the Treasurer, or by any of the officers of the charity.

At a meeting of the corporators of "The Gynæcological Hospital and Infirmary for Diseases of Children," held on the 14th day of July, 1874, the following officers were elected:—

BOARD OF MANAGERS.

Mrs. James Moore,	1622 Green Street.
Mrs. Wm. H. Allen,	Girard College.
Mrs. Pierre Munzinger,	1908 Rittenhouse Square.
Mrs. John Pearce,	1619 Green Street.
Miss Rachel Balderson,	1611 Oxford Street.
Miss Emily Lehman,	1718 Arch Street.
Miss Marie L. Seyfert,	1813 Columbia Avenue.
Mrs. Henry Howson,	1909 Fairmount Avenue.
Mrs. R. W. Steel,	1839 Fairmount Avenue.
Mrs. Mary H. Maxwell,	1401 North 17th Street.

[Two Vacancies.]

BOARD OF COUNCIL.

Rev. Bishop Simpson, D.D.,	1807 Mt. Vernon Street.
Rev. L. P. Hornberger,	1611 Oxford Street.
James Moore, Esq.,	1622 Green Street.
Thomas Dolan, Esq.,	842 North Broad Street.
John Pearce, Esq.,	1619 Green Street.
Hon. John Robbins,	908 Shackamaxon Street.
Wm. S. Reyburn, Esq.,	1820 Spring Garden Street.
Henry Howson, Esq.,	1909 Fairmount Avenue.
Joseph Singerly, Esq.,	North Broad Street.
James Otterson, Esq.,	1714 Green Street.

TREASURER.

James Moore, Esq.

MEDICAL BOARD.

JOHN J. REESE, M.D.,	1840 Green Street.
JOSEPH A. MCFERRAN, M.D.,	1924 Green Street.
THEODORE H. SEYFERT, M.D.,	1813 Columbia Avenue.

SOLICITOR.

WALTER S. STARK, Esq.,	512 Walnut Street.

Form of Legacy.

I give and bequeath to "The Gynæcological Hospital and Infirmary for Diseases of Children" the sum of
dollars, towards promoting the objects of the said Hospital.

Form of Devise of Real Estate.

I give and devise to "The Gynæcological Hospital and Infirmary for Diseases of Children," their successors and assigns, all that (description of property) to hold to the said "The Gynæcological Hospital and Infirmary for Diseases of Children" and their successors forever, for them to dispose of and convey in any manner which will promote the objects of the said Hospital.